

Transit Tips

1. Care for your car. Regular maintenance and tune-ups, changing the oil and checking tire pressure can improve gas mileage, extend your car's life and increase its resale value. It can also reduce preventable breakdowns and reduce your car's emissions by more than half.



2. Combine car trips...It's easy! Chances are, you're already doing it – combining your errands into one trip. Much of the pollution a car will cause occurs when the engine starts up after it has been off for 90 minutes or longer. This means that one car trip with stops at the grocery store, video store, and drug store could cause less than half of the pollution that would be created by individual trips – and it will save you time!

3. Avoid topping off your tank. You will help the vapor recovery hose do its job of keeping polluting fumes out of the air. Topping off rarely adds much gas to your tank, and almost always makes gas spill, causing air and water pollution and exposing you to benzene, a known carcinogen.

4. Have fun! Ride your bike. It's a great way to travel and it can help you and the air get into better shape. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the transportation sector directly accounted for about 27% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2003, and transportation is the fastest-growing source of U.S. greenhouse gases.

5. Take things in stride by walking or in-line skating instead of driving, when possible. Both are easy ways to get exercise and are easy on the air.

6. Take the bus, carpool, or vanpool instead of driving – even if you do that just once or twice a week, you will save money and reduce traffic congestion and air pollution. The average driver spends 0.95 cents per mile on direct driving costs. You can link to a calculator that will estimate your cost per mile by visiting the Division for Air Quality Web site at www.air.ky.gov.

